

Mouth of the River

Issue 2

A Publication of Oyster River Journalism Class

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Does O.R. Create A Healthy Life?

by Margot Anderson

Class meetings were held mid-November to discuss the school atmosphere and how the teachers and students felt about it. The meeting's objective was to see how the high school can be improved and how a new school could be built to satisfy everyone.

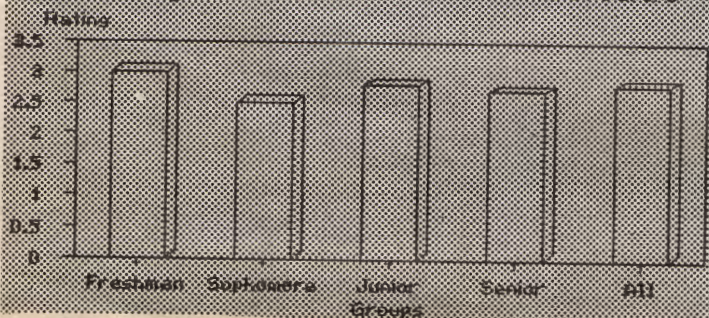
At each meeting, a letter was read to the entire class, explaining the meetings objective. Then, the under-class meetings split into several groups while the senior class

remained together. The groups discussed the letter and what they felt about the atmosphere of the high school. Many agreed that there is little that can be done to change attitudes of individuals but there may be ways to make some people more comfortable. Prior to the class meetings, surveys were sent out to two homerooms in each class. There were eleven questions that could be rated from 1-5, 1 being agree strongly, and 5 being disagree strongly.

When the overall average was taken for each grade the sophomores had the lowest positive average followed by the seniors, juniors then freshmen. Sophomore Kasey Evans commented "I'm not surprised, our class is very apathetic as a whole." Sophomore Matt Blasik expressed that he "was very disappointed in our class. It's all the administration's fault." Class advisor Mrs. Hopkins feels that maybe it is their sense of diversity that makes them feel as if they don't belong and therefore feel negative toward the school. "I think that between the middle school and high school they were broken up a bit. They have trouble finding activities that the whole class can agree on and do together."

One question in the survey was whether or not students are proud to go to ORHS. The av-

Average for Positive Attitude



The Oyster River "student lounge" the hallway.

erage for positive attitude followed that of the general overall but this question showed that girls were more proud in all but the senior class. In the senior class the girls averaged 2.5 with the boys at 2.6. Freshmen girls were the highest with an aver-

Livability cont. pg. 6

!!!!!! MOUSE ROARS !!!!!

by Jason Mosley

The fall play, "The Mouse That Roared", through minor difficulties, pulled off a hilarious performance on Nov. 21, 22, 23.

The minor difficulties were the result of the inability of Robert Martin, the President, to appear in the play Friday night. Pierce Woodward was chosen to take his place for Friday night's performance. Pierce said, "It was a lot of fun, but it scared the Hell out of me." Rob said, "People tell me that school work is more important than the arts, and I chose the wrong time to listen to them, a lot of people got hurt." Rob was unable to perform because he arrived at school too late to participate in after-school activities. "The Mouse That Roared" is an ironic comedy about a country named Grand Fenwick, only 3x5 miles in area, whose sole export is a wine called "Pinot Grand Fenwick." Their market is being undermined by a cheap Californian imitation. Since they have no other resources they are forced to war, but an ironic twist causes them to become the most powerful nation in the world, even more powerful than the U.S., they capture the Q-bomb, powerful enough to make a crater 2,00 miles across.

The cast enjoyed the play and it's director Scott Parkinson. Skot Long described him as "a really good director." He added, "It's helpful to me to have a different directing style than before."

The play was produced by Richard C. Tappan.

The cast were Megan Armitage, Ben Hudson, Skot Long, James Walsh, Stephanie Adams, John

Mouse cont. pg. 2

TRAINER NOW AVAILABLE TO O.R. ATHLETES TWICE A WEEK

By David Delude

This year the athletic program at ORHS is adding trainers to the staff.

The trainers are volunteering their time to be available after school from 2:30 to 5:00. There is one volunteer coming from Marsh Brook Rehabilitation center.

These trainers are going to be available in the gym for anyone who is in the gym at that time. A trainer will also be at all of the home hockey games according to Mr. Nichols.

Before the trainers came up as an issue, the most experienced people in the field of sports medicine were Coach Donald Maynard and Kathy Baker.

This past soccer season there was a trainer at practice two days a week. The trainer was also available for volleyball and field hockey.

The trainers for the basketball season will also be available two days a week. They will be here to help out the injured as well

as to help prevent injuries. According to Mr. Nichols the trainers will also be informed about past injuries.

"We don't have enough money in the budget for anything like that," commented Mrs. Brown, meaning the trainers.

Mr. Nichols was working on getting a second trainer from Sports Medicine, that trainer would also be available in the gym to other days of the week. The original trainer that was being asked by Mr. Nichols to help out

FACULTY-STUDENT SENATE A POSSIBILITY FOR O.R.H.S.

by Kerri Mac Pherson

The Student Council proposed the creation of a Faculty-Student Senate to the faculty recently. This new form of student government would change the way Student Council is run, and what it does.

Previously, Student Council has been responsible for sponsoring student activities like the Clam Slam and Spring Fling, and Sadie Hawkins dance. They had little, if anything, to do with the actual government of ORHS student affairs.

Student Council President Eric Ritvo would like to see that change. Along with other council members Kevin Haley and Bridgid Murray, Ritvo has proposed to the faculty to

form a Student Senate in place of Student Council. The Faculty-Student Senate would be a forum between the adults and adolescents who interact daily with each other, giving each group a chance to voice concerns and solve problems.

A Student Senate would continue to sponsor activities during the school year, but it would be more of an outlet to get the students and faculty to talk and discuss what's going on at school.

A Student Senate would include about 12 students elected at large, with even distribution from each grade. There will also be four teacher representatives on the Senate.

Currently there is
SENATE to pg. 5

CLAM SLAM TOP TEAM



L to R: Caroline Tully, Tory Jennison, Dean Kennedy, Ryan Souza, Betty Sparr, Ben Adams, Kevin Haley.



LIFESTYLES



Stacey Sweet and Jessica Thibault on White Face Day.

S.A.D.D.'s White Face Day Startles ORHS

by Caroline Tully

White Face Day. The sobering reality of what that represents is now clear to the students of Oyster River High School.

By fourth period, December 12, 19 students had "died" as a result of alcohol-related accidents. The SADD members portrayed this by wearing white-painted faces and not speaking the rest of the day.

The purpose of this demonstration was to emphasize SADD's motto "Don't Drink and Drive" White Face Day exem-

plified the consequences of ignoring that warning.

Alcohol related deaths totaled 22,415 in 1991; of that figure 12% were teenagers. The number of alcohol related accidents reached an all-time high in the 1980's. Although they have been steadily decreasing, the figures are still very high.

The following day a survey was circulated among the Oyster River student body to again provoke thoughts about the seriousness of drinking and driving. The SADD members also set up an information

booth in the cafeteria where students were able to ask questions concerning the previous day's activities.

The SADD members who participated in the White Face Day demonstration were Owen Bruder, Ben Conrad, Beth Dell, Ian Duncan, Hunt Howell, Karen Humphrey, Amy Swift, Marris Gravitt, Dean Kennedy, Megan Mieras, Mike Merenda, Toutou Saravong, Amy Priestley, Betty Sparr, Stacey Sweet, Dana Loubier, Jessica Thibault, and Vicki Walker.

Teenagers and the Police: Mutual Distrust

by James Dolan

Are the police of Durham around for our well being or are they here to find petty problems with Oyster River high school students? In October the Durham police responded to a series of phone calls made by neighboring residents of the school about the reckless driving of the students. Students

generally felt confused as to why there were three police cars patrolling Coe Drive. Why do they need three cars for one short road?

Senior Tim Myers was disturbed with the fact there were so many police at ORHS. "I find hard to believe that a town with so much drug dealing, underage use of alcohol, and rape that all the police can find to do is sit out-

side the school and catch petty violators," stated Myers. School Administrator Nancy Winterbottom explained that the reason for the abundance and availability of the police is for two reasons: UNH police and Durham Police have

POLICE cont. pg. 6

Advice from Smith and Wesson

TAKE AIM AT PERSONAL PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY SHOOT YOU DOWN!

by James Dolan
Margot Anderson

Dear Smith and Wesson,
I'm a Senior guy and I'm in love with a freshman girl. She's really nice although she hasn't developed, you know. She writes me little notes with big circles over the i's and calls me all the time. I feel like I'm robbing the cradle. What is wrong with me?

Dear Cradle Robber,
Don't worry, many older guys are attracted to younger women. Someone has to break her in to new and better things sooner or later. And remember, when you're 72 she'll be 69.

Dear S & W,
I'm constantly plagued by strange paranoia's. What if I'm parked on a sink hole? What if seagulls congregate and carry me away or my cigarette blows up in my face?

Dear Paranoid,
Insurance will cover your car, seagulls are too stupid to do such a thing and quit smoking.

Dear S & W,
My boyfriend and I are starting to get real serious. We've been together for three weeks. He wants us to drop out of school and move to L.A. He wants wants to be a guitarist in a band. He says once he learns how to play we'll be rolling in lots of money. Should I do it?

Dear Moron,
It looks like you

guys really have your priorities straight and spent lots of time to plan this out. It appears like a good living situation. One out of every million people make it big in music and there are about 8.5 billion people in the world so that makes your chances pretty fair.

Dear S & W,
I'm addicted to helium. It's not so bad except that I'm too embarrassed to speak with anyone around, but my helium buddies. What should I do?

Dear Michael Jackson,
Get help now. It can permanently damage your insides unless you go for help now.

Dear S & W,
Ever since my accident all I think about is death and gore. I'm really starting to worry because I woke up one morning with blood all over my hands and now I can't find my dog. What do you think S & W?

Dear Schitzo,
We think it's time you get a new dog.

Dear S & W,
I'm attracted to a female school administrator who I would like to remain anonymous. Should I tell her my feelings?

Dear Seamus,
No, our school administrators, especially the women, are far too overpowering for a young teenager going through puberty like you.

Mouse from pg. 1

Tersolo, Robert Martin, Gabe Brown, Emily Franzosa, Craig Allen, Mary McCleery, Abby Smith, Rick Tappan, Tom Lanoie, Andy Dolph, Pierce Woodward, Alexia Taylor, Amy Ulrich, Cara Campbell, Briana Campbell, Abigail Carroll, Meg Frazer, Tammie Spencer, Kerri McCarthy, and Gada

Hammad.
The choice for the April Musical is currently being discussed. The decision will be made before the holidays. Dave Ervin, Mr. Lofgren, Mr. LaForce, and Mr. Tappan will be collaborating on that project and welcome student suggestions. Senior Follies will be taking place in March.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE DOUBLES PROGRAMS

by Stephanie Gray and Nina Pudil

The community service program in Oyster River continues to grow since its beginning, three years ago. The number of options a person interested in volunteering has to choose from has nearly doubled since just last year, with 7 programs and 90 students involved.

The program originally started by OREW and the student council, is now coordinated by Ms. Denise Williams and interested students. Last year it involved the big buddy program, peer tutoring, Friend to the Elderly and the soup kitchen. However, due to the ideas of students and staff it now also includes volunteering at A Safe Place, Cocheco Valley Humane Society and the Special Olympics. Kristen Bub typed up and edited a brochure passed out to students this year as an effort to increase student interest.

Dean Kennedy, one of the co-ordinators and head of the Friends for the Elderly program stated "There is a lot of support but not everyone has the time, Oyster River is a sports school." Has the increased number of programs, increased the number of volunteers? "Yes, but it is hard to tell because the program hasn't been in operation for very long and new programs are added every year," stated Kennedy. Overall the number of volunteers has grown over the years. "Being a volunteer is a lot of fun and I encourage everyone to try it," said Cyndi Milner.

"We're a school who cares about one another. We care about our community and the people in it." Those are some of the comments you hear if you ask the student body about Oyster River.

If this is the case, why don't more people volunteer? Those who

play sports could volunteer during the times when they don't. Some are worried they can only sign up at the beginning of a new semester. "I would volunteer, but it's the middle of the quarter and I don't think I can," stated Toutou Saravong. "Students can volunteer anytime during the year," according to Ms. Williams the co-ordinator of the entire program. Amy Swift and Dean Kennedy both arrange for transportation to various programs. Liz Bucar is the head of organizing people to travel to the Soup Kitchen and Amara Phillips is another co-ordinator.



FOLLIES TOPS ACTIVITIES

by Matt Swanson

The winter season has rolled around again and the classes are preparing for ski trips and skating trips. The seniors, though, are getting ready for senior follies, which is going to be performed in March.

Directors for senior follies are going to be picked this week and they'll be working on it from there. Besides follies, Senior President Anita Mathur is hoping to do other activities before the seniors graduate this spring.

For instance, events like a hiking trip, concerts, and maybe a couple sporting events. The only problem lies where the seniors just don't have the time for all the activities planned due to college preparations and other engagements. Pres. Mathur commented, "If we can pull in 25% of the class for an activity, we consider it a success."

Events like the carwash and a potluck dinner had a good turnout. Senior officers hope for even more people in future events.

The Junior class just finished participating in Junior/Senior night at the Works Athletic club. Turnout was good and all present seemed to have a good time. The Juniors are planning to have a ski trip on Dec. 18th.

"We need people to go to things," commented Junior President Darren

Miller. The Junior dance held in October, raked in \$600 and the class is hoping for future events to pull about the same amount or even more.

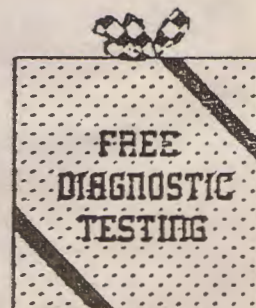
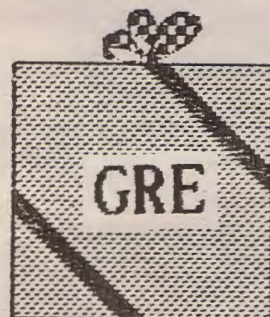
Ski trips and a sledding/skating event are on the agenda for the Sophomores. A trip to watch a Bruins game is also in the works. Class President Kim Golding said, "Any other suggestions for class activities would be helpful."

No dates have been set yet, but they will be determined at an upcoming class meeting. Raising money the sophomores held a dance and bake sale.

The Freshman class have started their winter fundraising activities by selling roses. According to class president Casey Hall, the roses should be delivered the week before holiday break. Hall also said that they're hoping to plan on having ski trips and a Bruins game. Hall hopes to put on these events as soon as they can so they can, so as to "create a lot of enthusiasm for class excursions and money makers." Turnout for their last activity a carwash has been good.

Overall, the classes are very enthusiastic about having fun events for this winter, but

there was an overall feeling that there needed to be greater participation from the students.



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EDITORIALS & OPINION

LET'S FACE UP TO THE CONDOM ISSUE

AIDS. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It kills. It has no opinion, no thoughts, no remorse. It just does its business and that's that. It is taking lives left and right, with the victim total ever increasing. Even Magic Johnson, the epitome of Macho in today's society and the American dream come true, has the disease. What do you do about it? How do we combat it? Is it in Oyster River High School?????

As a nation, community, and humanity, we need to stop this killer. Education is the key to solving this problem. The only way to stop something from happening is to let the world know the methods of prevention.

The most common method of transference is through sex. Obviously, abstinence, refraining from sex, will keep you AIDS-free. Unfortunately, anyone with hormones can tell you that it is hard to "JUST SAY NO".

Suppose that you are one of the many million of teenagers who wish to experience sex before marriage, yet don't wish to get AIDS - what do you do? First, after finding a partner (sex is a two-person activity) you need a condom. A condom is 99% effective, and works because it keeps body fluids from interacting. The condom keeps both the male and female safe from any sexually-transmitted disease and pregnancy. Condoms, as long as used correctly, should keep both parties physically healthy.

Where are condoms available? In Durham, they can be found at Store 24, Brooks Drug Store, and the candy machines at the MUB. The cost is relatively inexpensive when you think of all the other costs involved when not using one. We feel that condoms should be available for anyone who needs them. Perhaps they should be available in the nurse's office at Oyster River High School.

Fortunately, AIDS hasn't taken the life of an Oyster River student yet, but the threat of the disease is still around. We endorse abstinence or the use of condoms. Even more, we endorse responsibility and thinking. Before any sex occurs, we hope that both parties will think about what it means and the consequences of it. The thoughts "Oh, I'll never get AIDS," or "I'll never become pregnant," ignore reality. One would never go out in freezing weather naked, which is what it is like to have sex without a condom. Keep yourself protected, so you don't have to deal with pregnancy and disease.

HOW MUCH BETTER CAN WE MAKE THIS PLACE?

by Jason Mosley

School atmosphere, the general feelings floating about the school, has recently been an issue. It seems that all of a sudden someone is concerned with how the students feel about the place that mandatory law requires them to be seven hours of their day.

Well, if they really want to know how a typical student feels,

here goes: First of all, school is never going to be a student's favorite place to be. The people in charge should give up any thought of making this building the most comfortable place students could be. For most of us, being in our cozy bed will always be better.

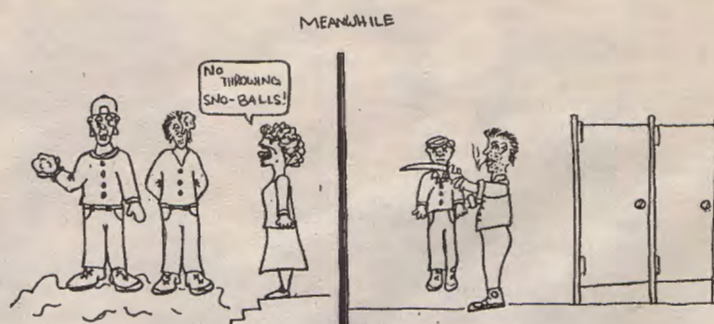
That doesn't mean that there is anything wrong with trying to make it more com-

fortable than it is now.

A student lounge would also be a good idea. The students need a place that is comfortable, where they can relax. The caf and the library don't suffice. The Peer Outreach room was a small but effective place. Then we were banned from the room. Reason? Students being in there would intimidate other students who want to use the college/career search computers, also located in the small room. Tell me, which is more intimidating? Fellow students or a locked room with only the possibility of seeing an administrator inside?

Then there are the bathrooms. What kind of atmosphere does the school create if it chains open the bathroom doors? It creates an atmosphere of distrust and dislike. Distrust from the administration, dislike from the students. If the people in charge are worried about the students hanging out in the bathrooms [in the BATHROOMS?] they should create some place the students can go instead of the bath-room. What kind of school is it if the best place to hang out is in the bathroom?

If the school's decision makers are really concerned about the atmosphere of the school, they should re-examine things they have already done and in the future should examine more carefully the effects of their actions in the long term.



Closed Courses a Catch 22

by Ginger Smith and Dawn Myrick

The individuals at ORHS (notably the administration) are always quick to point out the advanced courses available to the student. These courses include calculus or advanced physics.

To get into a course of this caliber, prerequisites are obviously needed. A student who has not yet completed trigonometry does not possess the skills to enroll in and successfully complete a calculus course. Yet the current course structure and requirements at ORHS may in effect bar a student from taking a course required as a freshman in college.

Let's continue using calculus as an example. Suppose a student wishes to take this course senior year. This means that the student will have to start planning his/her high school schedule in seventh grade. In eighth grade, the potential calc. student takes Algebra 1. This allows him/her to progress to Geometry as a freshman and Algebra II/Trig as a sophomore. Only then can the student take year-long course of pre-calculus and finally reach the goal of a year of calculus as a senior.

The administration, of course, offers an alternative plan to the typical schedule to achieve a senior year of calculus. It is possible, if the stu-

dent's grades are excellent, to double up on math courses during the year. A good Trig student, for instance, can take the pre-calc. course at the same time.

This alternative, however, completely disregards the average student. If a junior does not have an A in Trig but a C+, then that student is denied the right to take calc. in his/her senior year and must take pre-calc. instead. Thus, the average student is passed over for the student who just happens to be a little more talented in math. What happens to the average student transferring from another school, who was unable to plan out a schedule to fit the rigid ORHS requirement structure?

Prerequisites for advanced courses cannot not be changed. It is the course infrastructure of ORHS that must be. Instead of catering to the the exceptional student, the administration should revise the course structure to incorporate the average student in advanced courses. This will expose the college-bound student to a higher level of conceptual thought and allow the student to excel in a college AP or regular course in that subject, contradicting the ORHS philosophy of "take a college prep course in high school, test out of it in college".

Kerri MacPherson

MIND'S EYE A FIRST IN LITERARY ARTS

The Editors of the Mind's Eye are proud to announce the near completion of the first literary arts magazine published independently outside of a writing workshop class at ORHS. Students have been working since early summer to produce this magazine. Unlike previous literary magazines, it has been our intent to showcase all forms of art, visual or the printed page. Artists have few outlets to showcase their talents in a lasting format, and it is our intent to provide one such outlet to the minds and eyes of OPHS.

This issue of the Mind's Eye will be distributed directly before or after Christmas vacation. A small fee will be charged for each copy.

The Mind's Eye will open for submissions for the next issue in January. So if over vacation your mind's eye is feeling productive and creative, do something and let us see it. Write a song, a story, a poem, doodle, or snap some pictures of your cousins playing street hockey with Aunt Edna's homemade fruitcake rings. The Mind's Eye is waiting.

Mouth of the River
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VOCATIONAL PROGRAM OFFERS EXCELLENT CAREER OPTIONS

by Marni Thibault and
Stephanie Gray

It has been a traditional stereotype that "good, smart" students take classes at high school while all the others are "sent off" to trade school to take vocational classes. In the program of studies for Tri-City Vocational (Dover, Rochester, Somersworth) it mentions that "these courses will help develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for employment and or continued education in a chosen career."

"I usually don't consider vocational classes that way and that's why I don't take them," commented junior, Margot Anderson.

The Regional Vocational Center at Dover High School offers "opportunities to develop leadership skills, social, and civic awareness, and increased understanding of the world of work," as said in the Program of Studies for Dover High. There are over 30 different vocational classes offered by Dover Vocational, ranging from Cosmetology to Auto Body Repair. The Vocational Guidance Coordinator Michael Frandzel commented that Dover Vocational was, "Bigger in terms of the number of programs that we offer."

"Dover VocTech pro-

gram for me has helped a lot in skills that I'm

going to be using later in my career," commented TouTou Saravong. Dover VoTech is a great opportunity for people like TouTou who have their careers already planned out and cannot find the classes needed to help strengthen their skills at Oyster River.

The Dover Vocational center is the oldest in the state. It was first built in 1943. There are currently 125 students enrolled at Dover from ORHS and 520 in all. Brian Fernald commented that "Experience is important to me in finding a job because I'm planning on using it in getting a job this summer."

With these kind of attitudes it is easy to see why the school has continued to grow in the last 48 years.

With the opening of more classes to students from other schools (especially business classes), the school is trying to encourage more students to take part in the program. It is hoped that these classes, along with the fact that 40% of the students go off to college, will convince students that "smart" students take vocational classes too.



Jason Sidmore, a marketing student, working at the Voc-Tech store.

STUDY NIXES YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL PLAN

by Ginger Smith

As an alternative to building new schools in the future to meet projected enrollment growth, the Board ordered UNH-based Center for Educational Field Services (CEFS) to conduct an independent study as to the feasibility of a year-round school program for the elementary, middle, and high school. CEFS also investigated the possibility of double sessions and an extended school day.

Faced with the projections of 866 to 883 high school students by

the year 2000, something must be done to handle the predicted influx of students. While the current population for ORHS for 1991 is only 471 students, the proposed of student body of 2000 exceeds CEFS' optimal capacity estimate of only 604 students in the high school.

The year-round alternative would meet the need for space and "reduce or eliminate the problems associated with overcrowded facilities" according to CEFS survey. If the year-round program was implemented, three quarters of the student body would be in school at any one time. The increase in building capacity would be by one third.

Bill Skinner, the president of the Rotary Club, was the individual who originally responsible for initiating the survey. By submitting a petition signed by 10-15 registered voters to the town clerk, Mr. Skinner was able to have the year-round school alternative presented to the taxpayers. The survey conducted by CEFS was result.

Despite the predicted 84 to 87% increase in the high school student body growth for the in the year 2000, the CEFS survey concludes that the "Oyster River School District has too few students to implement the year-round school schedule..." Mr. Skinner expressed his disappointment at the results because "...we have so much money invested in the schools" but are allowed to use then for limited time period.

Mr. Skinner said he was not surprised at the CEF findings and was pleased "that the Board got competent people" to look into the idea. The CEFS survey also does not recommend double sessions or an extended day ("stop gap measures") the cure the projected student growth.

Ruth Bristol agrees with Jackson, and says that the representatives would have to be "people who you think will understand."

forming a Student Senate is for the Student Council to write up a proposal to be ratified. "If everything goes well, the Student Senate could be in place by the end of the year. For this to work, it has to get done this year," Ritvo said.

The initial steps are being taken with a meeting December 16 between members of the Student Council and the four advisors. Teachers who have volunteered are Mr. Gasowski, Ms. Whaley, Mrs. Dodge, and Mrs. Abbott.

Senior Jason Mosley said, "I don't think it's going to work because the administration doesn't want

SENATE from pg. 1

no teacher representative on Student Council. Mrs. Brown does work with the present Student Council, but she has many other duties that require her attention.

Ritvo spoke to faculty at their last meeting. He believes the proposal went over well, although the faculty was curious as to how much time given to student activities would be required of them. Ritvo stated that the time responsibility would be minimal for each teacher, with four teacher representatives, and an average of four activities a year. "I think they'll realize that with time. All seemed to like the idea," Ritvo said of the faculty meeting.

Ms. Szot said of the idea, "I think it's a really good concept." She, like most of the teachers, had a few questions she thought needed to be answered. Ms. Szot pointed out that the Student Council had yet to get an opinion from the student body. Also, Student Council has other commitments, such as Sadie Hawkins that can't be ignored. She

said the whole thing will take some planning, but, "It has really good potential. Discussion between teachers and kids is really worthwhile."

Mr. Tappan said he had interest in participating, but expressed concern over the amount of time the teacher representatives would have to commit.

Even the addition of one hour a week to some teacher's schedules could be too much for them to be able to commit to.

Other faculty concerns that will need to be addressed during the proposal process include the need to get an accurate representation of students and staff, and how that will be accomplished. Another area of concern is the authority this senate would have. How it would work with the already established administrative groups and to what degree would decision made by the senate have authority will need to be answered in order to implement the idea.

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CONTINUED from...

Livability from pg. 1
age of 3.8 while the boys were down at 2.3. Sophomore girls were 2.4 and boys at 2.0. Junior girls were at 2.8 with the boys close below at 2.6. Junior Tricia Crockett showed surprise and said "I would expect that the boys would be more proud with all the sports and activities that they can participate in." But Junior Brian Fernald said that "No one has any reason to be proud of ORHS. I'd like to know what the school is doing to make the underclass girls so proud." Freshman Larissa Crockett reasoned that "Anything is better than the middle school."

Another problem that was discussed was some teachers picking favorites and being prejudiced toward others. The overall average for all the classes was 3.0. Mr. Gasowski said that "Sometimes it can be misunderstood but I can see how students would think that. I would hope that it does

not happen in my class but some students are more active and visible. This could be misinterpreted as favoritism." Mrs. Schaffer explained that "Professionally, you have to try to be objective and treat everyone fair. But individually you sometimes relate better to some students than others. It happens in any social dynamics."

Freshman Kimberly Anderson said "I think some of the administration judges students on their appearance and who they hang around with. It does not always matter who they are." Senior Mike Detota says that "Some teachers do [show favoritism] but not all of them. I have favorite English teacher." This shows that teachers aren't the only ones guilty of favoritism.

On questioning the availability of places for students to go and simply relax, the survey averaged in the "generally disagree" range at 2.6. When

students have a free period they have few options as to where to go. It is either the library, the cafeteria, or a room with adult supervision. The peer outreach room is only available when there are peer outreach members in there or you are using the college information. Students would like to see a designated smoking area, unsupervised lounge for anyone to just hang out, and more places to sit outside.

At another meeting on Wednesday, December 18, students and faculty will continue to discuss how to improve the school to satisfy everyone. The meeting is open to all interested faculty and students.

TRAINER cont. pg. 2

a trainer for its athletes and could possibly be getting a second in the future.

The issue of the trainers being added to the payroll was very important to a lot of people, so it was important that the trainers were working on a volunteer basis.

games.

Next year should be impressive with a lot of players returning as seniors. The addition of new dates on the banners in the gym is also quite possible.

THEATRE SETS, ADULT SURVIVAL OFFERED AS EXPANDED TECH ED

by Annand Moennsrad

Mr. Lofgren the school's woodworking and basic metals teacher is now designing new classes for student use in the future. Next semester construction and preparation for Theatre Set and Construction and Adult Survival will take place.

The course will cover theatre past and present, lighting, prop construction, and set construction. Students will have their own choice of particular interests in theatre.

The other course, Adult Survival will be taught by Ms. Kisbaugh and Mr. Lofgren. They will be teaching young students skills for everyday life, such as how to operate their homes, pay bills, raise families, handle jobs, etc.

Next year CAD/CAM, Robotics, and 3-D shop art will be functioning. Ms. Brown said, "We would like to build a closer relationship with Art, Home Ec. and shop to work together more efficiently."

Mr. Lofgren has proposed to change the school nurse's room

useful, because of its small and compact space, then build a much bigger room for nurse Reeve's daily use.

A new project for the woodworking class is the idea of building picnic tables. Mr. Lofgren's classes would work to a potential and receive a silver plaque of hard work and craftsmanship.

In woodworking students are encouraged to design and build projects of their own choice. Already students are taught basic skills, such as hand tool and machinery usage. Projects range from bookshelves to boat building.

In basic metals and small engines, students have been involved with auto repair, and maintenance. Projects have included bird houses, waste baskets, and tool holders and a variety of other projects associated with sheet metal.

The second half of this year, the basic metals and small engines course will be replaced by the Theatrical Set Design and Construction course.

are out of hand."

Even Ms. Winterbottom thought that the presence of three cruisers an overkill

After several attempts to ask for comments from the Durham police they finally refused to give any answers regarding their presence at the high school.

WRAP from 8

Out of this season's J.V. teams, the Boy's J.V. Soccer team had one of the better seasons. They ended with a 12-1-2 record, dominating over the other teams in their class. They recorded a total of 8 shutouts and a total of only 9 points scored against them the

whole season. They look to be good for years to come.

Girl's J.V. Soccer and Girl's J.V. Volleyball ended the seasons well. Girls J.V. Soccer ended with a record of 8-5 and Girls Volleyball ended with a record of 10-6. Both teams played excellently, winning over half of all their

POLICE from pg. 2

united to enforce the law.

For the most part, student feeling is very negative toward the Durham Police because they think it is all unnecessary. Senior Jen Olsen stated "I don't think the kids

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BOBCATS BEAT MVHS TO END 9 YR STREAK

By Marni Thibault

The Oyster River Boys Varsity Basketball team squeaked out a victory over Merrimack Valley in overtime last Tuesday at Merrimack Valley Regional High School. The final score was 88 to 86 with Russell DeForest scoring the winning points. This game was the first time that the boys varsity team has beaten Merrimack at Merrimack Valley Regional in at least nine years, as far as the coaches can remember.

"People's expectations are really high and they need to understand that there is really, really good competition," commented their coach, Donald Maynard. He feels that this year's team is as strong as last year's and even better. He plans to play a full-court defense game.

The last time that Oyster River Varsity won the states was in 1988. "If we don't play as a team we're going to have a tough time," commented Mr. Maynard.

The members of the Varsity team are Allan Conlan, Russ DeForest, Dave Delude, Granam Duncan, Kevin Haley, Scott Poteet, Greg Provencher, Bryan

Rutland, Nathan Weeks, Ian Duncan, Garrick Olson, Jeff Stacy, and Gabe Wallman.

The season began with a Jamboree at Oyster River. Although the boys lost, player Bryan Rutland said, "It was good to compete against teams that we aren't going to play during the season." The first varsity home game is December 20 against Somersworth.

The members of the boys Junior Varsity team are Bob Murphy, Seth DeForest, Andy Dumont, Randy Henry, Sean Wilson, Mark DeRocchi, Dan Hodgson, Mark Myslivy, Craig Allen, Chris Poore, and Chris Richmond. Their coach is Rob Greenleaf.



DUNCAN WINS SILVER IN HAVANA

by Kerri Mac Pherson

Oyster River senior Graham Duncan, earned a silver medal while representing the United States as a member of the Pan Am Games rowing team this summer.

Four years ago, Duncan, influenced by a friend who lives on the Lamprey River, began rowing at the Durham Boat Club. This summer Duncan traveled to the Pan Am Games from August first through eighteenth in Cuba to compete internationally in rowing.

Duncan, to make the team for the Pan Am Games, had to qualify at the trials held at Princeton a month before. "I trained about three hours a day during the spring and then four hours a day once school was out," Duncan said.

He credits the Durham Boat Club's (DBC) success to their use of a combination of physical preparation coupled with the use of equipment like video cameras, heart rate monitors and Lactate testing. The results of the Durham Boat Club's methods are clear: out of the six sculling boats that made up the Pan Am Team, four were from the DBC.

During his stay in Cuba, Duncan was housed in the Olympic Village where he was able to meet athletes from many countries. Duncan had the opportunity to test out his high school French while in Cuba, although, "I wished many times that I had taken Spanish for the last four years instead of French."

"Shaking Castro's hand was the highlight

by Seamus Fleming

Looking up at the many championship banners hanging in ORHS' gym, it would probably be a surprise to see we were the 1972 skiing champions. Displayed just outside the front office are two more championship plaques, 1970 and 1971.

How is it ORHS had a ski team that was of championship quality for three years in a row, and then it was discontinued?

Eighteen years ago ORHS won its last skiing championship. Lack of interest and financial problems brought an end to the ski team. 1973 was also the year of the oil embargo. As a result, gas was hard to get and even if you could get it, it didn't come cheap. As a result lift ticket prices went up due to the higher cost of running the chair lifts. The sport just became too expensive for some people.

Today the interest is back, but what about the finances? According to Mr. Shapiro, with budget cuts, new athletic teams are not a very high priority. It seems very unlikely for any type of new team to be established. Our athletic director, Mr. Nichols, when asked if he thought a team could be started in the near future replied, "With

for me," Duncan explained. "Being congratulated by someone who has changed the course of history is an experience I'll never forget."

Duncan hasn't stopped striving for success since Cuba. "The Olympics in Barcelona won't have lightweights. I could row heavy weight, but it would be similar to a lightweight boxer trying to beat a heavyweight boxer." When the Olympics come to Atlanta in 1996, Duncan believes that there will be a lightweight division added. "This will be the year after I graduate from college, and I should be in peak condition age-wise at that point."



Jeff Stacey, as with many O.R. students, has branched out from skiing to snowboarding.

enrollment down at the

lowest level of at least the last fifteen years, the district is very unlikely to add any new sports."

Some students when asked if they would join a ski team if our school had one answered, "Yes, probably."

"I might because basketball stinks and I want to play a winter sport," said freshman Jeff Farrell.

Some senior males in the school replied: "Yes. It would be an excellent opportunity to excel in another of my many sports," commented "Bundy." "I say let's dump the swim team and use the money for a ski team," said Erin McNelly.

To get an unbiased opinion, I asked the same question to some

females in the senior class.

"If I had had the chance to start as a freshman I would have joined. Now I feel I'm too good and it just wouldn't be fair to the other competitors," remarked Brigid Murray.

"I don't know if I would join. It would depend what the team was like," commented Shannon Veno.

According to Mr. Nichols, the chance of having a ski team at ORHS doesn't look very bright in the near future. For students coming into our school maybe it is something to look forward and hope for. Possibly when more money is available for the athletic budget a team can be considered. Until then the skiers at ORHS can only hope.



Graham Duncan meets Fidel Castro

HOCKEY TEAM FACES TOUGH COMPETITION

by Nina Pudil

The Bobcat Icemen lost the Exeter game on Saturday with a score of 4-0, but according to observers, the Cats should have been credited with one goal.

According to some O.R. parents, the puck went in and bounced out, and the refs failed to see it.

A major morale booster for the Cats would be more people at the games. "A lot of fan support would help a lot," said Owen Bruder.

The Bobcats faced Dover on Monday after

losses to Keene and Exeter.

Bobcat hockey has to face Class L schools which according to Athletic Director Dave Nichols makes for a very difficult schedule.

The team is very young, but their spirits are high and they have been practicing hard with no returning seniors.

"It's better not having any seniors," said Matt Blasik, "because we have time to build up for next year."

The top scorers during scrimmages with

York and Winnacunnet were Owen Bruder and George Taggart.

Members of the team

are juniors: Owen Bruder, John Hill, Scott Troxell, Danny Gault, and Eric Carney. Sophomores: Tucker Katz, Matt Blasik, George Taggart, Ed Priestly, Scott McGarrell, and Mike Merenda. Freshmen: Jaime Davenport, Ryan Bellabona, Sean Dolliver, Scott Spielman and Andy Gault.

Goalies are freshman Chris Williams and junior Darren Miller.



Bobcat Skaters in action at Snively.

THREE QUALIFY FOR STATE TRACK MEET

by Caroline Tully

This year's ORHS winter track team opened up it's competitive season by participating in the Hanover Invitational in Dartmouth on Saturday.

The team placed in the 1500 meter, high jump, and the 3000 meter. Russ Warren took a bronze medal in the 1500 meter with a time of 4 minutes and 32 seconds and took the fifth place in the high jump with a height of 5 feet and 8 inches. Mike Northrop placed fifth in the 3000 meter with a time of 9 minutes and 48 seconds. "There were mostly class L schools, so the competition was pretty tough," said Coach Scascitelli. All three scores qualified for the state meet.

Mr. Joe Scascitelli hopes to train successful athletes and a strong team unit this season. He says, "I want to build a traditionally competitive team."

Many of the team members commented that winter track is only a preliminary warm-up for spring track. Frank Sabin, Tim Myers and Matt Swanson all said, "I'm just doing this to stay in shape." Coach Scascitelli agrees with this by saying,

"(winter to spring track is) one big, long season for the competitors who make it to the New England competition."

The number of members on the indoor track team has steadily increased since Mr. Scascitelli arrived here four years ago. According to Myers, distance tends to be strong area of the team, while sprinting has in general been weaker. Said Myers, "Hopefully with the addition of some new members, we will be able to really put the heat on in some of the shorter relays."

Team members include: Seniors-- Brandon Ammann (capt), Jamie Archie, Erin McNelly, Tim Meyers and Frank Sabin. Juniors-- Cot Chanthakoumane, Eric Harter, Kanenori Inuzami, Kyle Krouse (capt), Axel Leyck, Phil Nazzaro, Mike Northrop, Eric Rimbach, Scott Rideout, Patrick Russell, John Slippy, Matt Swanson, Terrence Tsang and Russ Warren (capt). Sophomores-- Neil Bostrom, Freshmen-- Josh Burt, Norm Bramstedt, Tim Dolan and Jared McKenna.



Girls' volleyball team celebrates after winning State L and I Championships in late October.

SIX OUT OF SEVEN FALL TEAMS MAKE PLAYOFFS; GIRLS' VB #1

by Matt Swanson

Oyster River dominated in the fall sports season with 6 out of 8 teams ending with winning records. One of those teams was the Girl's Volleyball team who defeated Nashua to win the state class L & I title. They ended their season with a record of 17-2.

Senior Mandy Tappan

had this to say about the team, "The team had so much fun this season because we were so close and winning was just the icing on the cake."

Boy's Volleyball played great this year but their best performances seemed to come towards the end of the season. They tried hard to beat some of the top teams in the state in their tournament at Pinkerton, but they just weren't able to beat the stronger Mascenic team. According to senior captain, Ben Hudson, "Half of the team was made of seniors and we hoped to have won the championship in the last year of playing but we came up short. All we can do now is wish the team luck for years to come and hope they do better."

The Girl's Soccer team made it to the semi-finals with a 12-7 record beating Linwood and Coe Brown in the preliminaries and the quarter-finals. They later lost in a close game to Hanover, a team they had lost to ear-

lier in the season as well. Senior Erica Beck described the season as a success. "All of our hard work and long practices paid off in the end. We had a very successful season and we are all very proud of our accomplishments."

Boy's varsity soccer also did well in their season, making it to the quarter-finals with a record of 10-5-2. They lost to Stevens in the quarter-finals, a team they hadn't played at all in the season. According to Junior, John Hill, "We did better than expected."

The Girl's Varsity Field Hockey team played well despite the lack of any returning seniors. The team also experienced a split into a second J.V. team. Without the loss of any seniors, next year's squad should fare better with an already complete team. Liz Burger, Junior, commented, "It was an encouraging season. There's hope for next year."

Cont, WRAP pg 6

CHEERLEADING ADDS J.V. SQUAD; MRS. SOUSA JOINS MRS. TAG COACHING

By David Delude

This year looks like a good season for the Bobcat cheerleaders. The season should go smoother because of their experience from last year.

The team looks very strong. They only lost four people last year: Audrey Graves, Heather James, Andrea Collins, and Mandy Tappan.

This year's team consists of captains Erica Beck and Jessica Orkin. The other members of the team are Quincy Souza, Chrissy Jackson, Ruth Bristol, Caroline Tully, Jen Bratt, Sara Shoemaker, Jamie Smith, Meredith Sawyer, Lori Anderson, Lindsay Crow, and alternate Nicole Beck.

This year there is also a Junior Varsity team consists of Robin Deay, Julie Levesque, Sigrunn Foss, Meadow Lang, Jenelle Andersen

and the varsity alternate Nicole Beck.

"This year's team looks like it will be better than last year's team," commented Quincy Souza. "Some of the things we worked on last year were accomplished by the end of the season, this year we are mastering those skills and will or improve, so we are looking forward to a trophy from the tournament at the end of the season."

This year the girls are in a competition at the end of the season. The team may also be in a competition at the beginning of January.

They are very enthusiastic about cheering for a team they know will do well.

Andrea Souza, the co-coach said "They will be sharp." She also said that they are learning a lot of new

cheers. They are also learning new stunts and "high shoulder stands".

Quincy Souza seems very enthusiastic about this year "We are a lot more excited about this year because there are a lot of returning people." She also commented that it makes it easier to have experience.

Last year the team got their first taste of competition, but this year it will be different.

"It will be easier to enter because we know what the judges like."

The girls had their first cheerleading competition at Merrimack Valley. The girls did very well for their first game of the year.

Mrs. Tag said, "The cheerleaders are off to a great start. They have a lot of spirit and enthusiasm."

The girls will be in a competition in January. "It will be harder for our girls because they are a smaller squad, the other teams compete year round," said Mrs. Tag.

The game at Merrimack Valley showed a new look for the cheerleaders as they only used two old cheers from last year according to Mrs. Tag. The new cheers also include a new half time floor dance.

With the new cheers and the experience and enthusiasm it looks to be a very strong season for the Oyster River cheerleaders.

Girl's Basketball: We've got spirit!

by Denis Luken

On Wednesday, December 11, the girls' varsity basketball team improved its record to 2-1 by knocking off Merrimack Valley 37-35. The other win came at Timberlane 54-45 behind Stefany Shaheen's 21 points.

Their only loss of the season came at the beginning of the season against Lebanon by a score of 68-26.

Kathy Baker, coach of the varsity team thinks the team has a good chance at attaining a .500 record this year. Ms. Baker said some of the strengths of the team are that they are "really quick, really good athletes," and that they are "very positive." Ms. Baker said that the major weakness of the team is their lack of height.

The captains of the team are Julie Walsh, Leslie Anderson, and Jen Friel. Other players on the team are Holly MacKay, Stefany Shaheen, Liz Fernald, Nicole Bellabona, Becky Givan, Lydia Rubesane, Anita Pudil, and Jennifer Garvey.

Julie Walsh said, "Coach Baker is a great coach who knows her stuff."

Leslie Anderson said, "she knows her game," and "she is willing to take as much time as we need." Anita Pudil said that Ms. Baker "is attentive towards the feelings of the team."

Nicole Bellabona said, "We are the kind of team that plays with heart."



Cheerleaders work out as Mrs. Tagliaferro looks on.